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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/GB86/00392 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 7 July 1986 (07.07.86)  <b>(31) Priority Application Number:</b> 8517092 <b>(32) Priority Date:</b> 5 July 1985 (05.07.85) <b>(33) Priority Country:</b> GB  <b>(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor:</b> TAYLOR, Thomas, Vincent [GB/GB]; Beech Bank, 27 Bloomsbury Lane, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire (GB).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> MARSH, Roy, David; Michael Burnside & Partners, 2 Serjeants' Inn, Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HL (GB).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CH (European patent), DE (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), IT (European patent), LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent), US.  <b>Published</b> <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> ARTIFICIAL BEZOAR  <b>(57) Abstract</b>  <p>An inflatable balloon (10) is placed in the stomach, to treat obesity by reducing appetite for food. The balloon can be inflated by liquid delivered to it by a supply line, (Fig. 1), by the gaseous reaction product of a chemical reaction within the balloon (Fig. 3) or by absorption of liquid through its semi-permeable wall (Fig. 4). The balloon is preferably piriform or ellipsoidal. Delivery to the stomach of the balloon (10) and supply line (13) by an overtube (14) with a closed smooth end presentation (16) is achieved by providing a fully-bounded side slit (17) in the overtube (14) from which the balloon (10) exists the overtube during its inflation. The balloon valve (11) and supply line (13) are preferably a mutual friction fit, enabling traction on the supply line alone to leave the balloon free-floating in the stomach following its inflation.</p>		